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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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#### **2013 CRAIG/KLAWOCK HERRING SPAWN-ON-KELP POUND FISHERY**

Ketchikan.... The Alaska Department of Fish and Game today announced the following information concerning the Craig/Klawock spawn-on-kelp pound fishery.

The 2012-13 herring winter food and bait fishery in Section 3-B and District 4 closed by regulation on February 28, 2013. Unharvested quota allocated to the winter food and bait fishery will be added to the spawn-on-kelp fishery. The final winter bait harvest was 321 tons. The spawn-on-kelp fishery is allocated 40% or 1,624 tons of the total 4,060 ton guideline harvest level (GHL). The GHL for the Craig/Klawock spawn-on-kelp fishery is the portion of the unharvested bait quota added to the 1,624 tons available. This gives a total GHL of 3,739 tons. This is **above 1,000** tons of herring, which provides for the maximum kelp allocation.

The kelp allocation for pounds that will be in place for the 2013 season is as follows (5 AAC 27.185):

Single Permit Closed Pound: 600 blades;

Double Permit Closed Pound: 750 blades per permit;

Triple Permit Closed Pound: 1,125 blades per permit;

Single Permit Open Pound: 250 fronds or 2,500 blades;

Multiple Permit Open Pound: 750 fronds or 7,500 blades per permit.

All pound operators are reminded that they must have a current Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission limited entry permit prior to introducing kelp or herring into their pounds. All *Macrocystis* kelp harvesters must have a kelp harvest permit prior to harvesting kelp for a closed or open pound. These permits must be in the possession of the pound operator and kelp harvester at all times during the fishing operations. *Macrocystis* kelp permits are currently available in all Southeast Alaska Department of Fish & Game offices.

The Craig/Klawock pound fishery will be open for purse seining starting at 12:00 noon, Sunday, March 17, 2013 and will close by emergency order on April 30, 2013. Seining will be allowed on a continual basis.

Spawn-on-kelp fishers and processors should read the SOUTHEAST ALASKA HERRING SPAWN-ON-KELP POUND FISHERY: 2013 MANAGEMENT PLAN for an overview of the management approach and regulations for the 2013 season. The plan is expected to be available by March 15. The 2012-2013 STATEWIDE COMMERCIAL HERRING REGULATIONS booklet contains detailed regulations for this fishery.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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